

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

October 24th, 1837.—Richard Owen, Esq., in the Chair.

The Prince of Musignano read a short communication upon the Long-tailed Trogon (*Trog. resplendens* of Gould).

The Quesalt, the native name of this species, is a rare bird, and very shy in its habits; it is confined to restricted limits, being solely found in a peculiar section of the mountainous district of Vera Paz, in the province of the same name, now forming one of the five independent states constituting the Federal republic of Central America. A single instance is on record of its having been domesticated. It builds its nest in the shape of a barrel or bag, open at both ends, by which means injury to its long tail-feathers is avoided. The Prince stated that he had communicated the present notice of the history of the Long-tailed Trogon to an American Journal some years since, and that so long as the year 1826, he had proposed that the specific name of *Paradiseus* should be given to the species.

Mr. Gray exhibited a drawing of a new species of the genus *Tetrapturus*, in the British Museum, which had been obtained at the Cape, and for which he proposed the specific name of *Herschelii**

Mr. Gray afterwards called the attention of the Meeting to some pieces of chalk, which he had recently found in the cliffs at Brighton, exhibiting perforations made by the *Patella* and *Pholas*, and presenting appearances which he considered to have been produced in the case of the latter genus by the rotatory action of the valves.

The remarks of Mr. Gray elicited considerable discussion as to the manner in which certain molluscous genera penetrate limestone rocks and other hard substances, a phenomenon which Mr. Owen thought could not be explained upon the supposition of its being exclusively caused by a rotation of the valves, but that it was chiefly due to the mechanical influence of the currents of water produced by the vibratile *cilia* of the animal, as noticed by Mr. Garner in a communication made to the Society in 1835.

Mr. Martin exhibited a new Bat from Fernando Po, belonging to the genus *Rhinolophus*, which he characterised as

RHINOLOPHUS LANDERI. *Rhin. vellere molli, et pulchrè castaneo-rufescente; auribus acutis, patulis, erectis, ad latus exterius emarginatis, et lobo rotundato accessorio instructis; prosthemate duplici; anteriore bidentato cum scypho parvulo ad basin anticam, hoc ferro-equino membranaceo circumdato; prosthemate posteriore*

* The description of this species with a plate will be found in vol. i. p. 313 of this Journal.

ad basin transversim sinuato, ad apicem acuto ; ferro-equino membranaceo, lato, margine libero anticè bifido ; pollice brevi, gracili, in membrand subtùs per dimidium incluso : ungue parvulo ; anti-brachiis robustis ; cruribus gracilibus ; patagiis nigricantibus.

	unc.	lin.
Longitudo corporis cum capite	1	4½
———— caudæ		9
———— aurium.		7½
———— anti-brachii	1	7½
———— cruris		8
———— calcanei		4½
<i>Prothematis</i> longitudo		2
<i>Alarum</i> amplitudo	9	

Habitat in Insulâ Fernando Po.

“This beautiful little species of Bat is a genuine *Rhinolophus* ; the nasal appendages consist of a horse-shoe, a crest, and an elevated leaf. The horse-shoe is broad with indications of a double furrow ; its outer margin is free and bifid anteriorly. In its centre is placed a little cup-like depression with an elevated rim, from the back of which rises a bifid crest not much elevated : the larger apex is the posterior of the two. On each side of this crest and behind it, the skin continued from the horse-shoe, and forming the base of the leaf, is furrowed by two deep but unequal *sulci*, with a marked posterior ridge, elevated across the base of the leaf, which latter ends in a short acute lanceolate point ; posteriorly it is covered with short hairs, anteriorly it is nearly naked. Its length is two lines. The ears are large, broad, and pointed ; the outer margin is emarginate, and passes into a large rounded accessory lobe, closing the ear anteriorly. The *anti-brachia* are short, the thumbs small, the *tibia* slender.

“The fur is soft and delicate, and of a fine light or rufous chestnut, a little darker on the middle of the back ; the wings are blackish.

“I have ventured to name this species in honour of the late enterprising, but unfortunate Mr. Lander, during whose expedition it was taken at Fernando Po.”

Mr. Martin also communicated to the Meeting the following notice of a new species of Hedgehog.

“Among the specimens of Natural History, from the neighbourhood of Trebizond, presented to the Society by Keith Abbot, Esq., is a species of Hedgehog, decidedly differing from our well-known British species, and appearing to be at present undescribed. It is much smaller than the *Erinaceus Europæus*, measuring from the tip of the muzzle to the root of the tail, over the arch of the back, only 9½ inches. The spines advance upon the forehead, and overshadow the eyes ;

the general colour presented by the spines 'en masse' is mahogany brown, but each spine individually taken is yellowish brown for three parts of its length from the basal extremity; this colour then becomes darker, and again passes into yellowish brown at the extreme apex; the annulation, however, is far less decided than in the British animal.

"The ears are short and rounded, a white patch is placed before them, and also on the forehead; the chest is dirty white; the sides of the muzzle, and the whole of the under surface are intensely blackish, or umbre brown, several long white hairs being intermixed with the rest on the shoulders, extending from the chest.

"The *tarsi* are longer than in *E. Europæus*. In a very large specimen of the latter, measuring from the nose to the root of the tail, over the back, $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the foot from the heel to the end of the middle toe, excluding the nail, measures 1 inch $\frac{4}{8}$, while in this smaller species it measures 1 inch $\frac{5}{8}$.

"For this species I propose the name of *Erinaceus concolor*. It may be thus characterised.

"*ERINACEUS CONCOLOR*. *Er. obscure fuscus, spinis in frontem, et super oculos obductis; spinis rigidis, flavescenti-fuscis ad basin, apicem versus intensè fuscis, apice extremo pallidè rufescenti-brunneo; auribus parvis, rotundatis; rostro breviusculo; in frontem notè albâ, necnon ante aures; pectore sordidè albo, vellere corporis subtùs nigrescenti-fusco, pilis longis albis ad humeros sparsim intermixtis.*

	unc.	lin.
"Longitudo corporis, a rostro ad caudæ basin, super dorsum	9	6
"Longitudo pedis postici a calce ad apicem digiti intermediû lingue excluso	1	$7\frac{1}{2}$

"Habitat apud Trebizond."

Mr. Waterhouse called the attention of the members to two species of Kangaroos, which were upon the table. One of these had lately been procured by the Society, and was from the neighbourhood of Hunter's River, the other had died in the Menagerie. Of this latter species the Society has possessed several living specimens; and there is still one in the Gardens, which was bred there.

Mr. Waterhouse stated that his object in bringing the animals in question before the Meeting, was to show that the specimen from the Menagerie was not, as had been supposed, the *Macropus ualabatus* of Lesson, but that it was in fact an undescribed species, being distinguished from that of Lesson, (which Mr. Waterhouse considered as identical with the specimen from Hunter's River,) by the following

characters:—the under parts are grayish white, instead of buff yellow; the ears are rather longer in proportion, and the tail hoary gray, white beneath, and with a white tip, instead of being almost totally black. Mr. Waterhouse proposed that the name *Macropus Bennetti* be adopted for this species, and proceeded to characterise it as follows:

MACROPUS BENNETTI. *Mac. intensè cineraceus, regione scapulari, clunibus, et regione circum-oculari, rufo-brunneis; corpore subtùs cinerescenti-albo; rostro, auribus posticè, digitis anticis posticisque nigris; lineâ albescenti vix distinctâ ab angulo oris, ad genas excurrente; caudâ cinerescente, ad apicem nigrâ, et subtùs sordidè flavescenti-albâ.*

	unc.	lin.
Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin	24	10
———— caudæ	24	7
———— ab apice rostri ad marginem oculi ..	3	0
———— ab apice rostri ad basin auris	5	10
———— tarsi digitorumque (sine unguibus) ..	8	9
———— auris	3	1

Hab. Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

“The fur of this animal is rather long and moderately soft; the longest hairs on the middle of the back measure about two inches, and the shorter about one and a half inches in length. Its general line is a very deep gray, inclining to black on the back, somewhat paler on the sides of the body, and a rust-like tint is observable on the back of the neck and base of ears externally, over the haunches and shoulders and in the region of the eye. The under parts of the body, and the inner side and fore part of the hinder legs, are of a grayish white colour. The muzzle is black, and the crown of the head is brown black; an obscure whitish line extends backwards from the corners of the mouth, and becomes obliterated on the cheeks; the hairs on the lips are dirty white; the chin is blackish. The ears are furnished with white hairs internally, and longish black hairs externally, excepting at the base. The limbs externally are of the same hue as the sides of the body; the fore feet, and the toes of the hind feet are black, the outer side of the heel is also black. The hairs of the tail (excepting at the base, where they are of the same colours and character as those of the body) are rather harsh, black, and broadly annulated with silvery white near the apex; the general tint is hoary gray, the white portion of each hair being most conspicuous; the apex of the tail is black, and on this part the hairs are long and form a kind of tuft; the under side of the tail is white. The hairs on the upper part of the body are of a deep slate colour at the base, the remaining portion of each hair is black annulated with white, or more generally with pale rust colour; on the under parts

of the body, the hairs are of a deep slate colour with the apical portion white.

“The above descriptions and dimensions are taken from an adult male; the two females in the Society’s Museum are of a smaller size and paler colour, their prevailing tint being reddish gray: around the entrance to the pouch the hairs are of a deep rusty brown colour.”

A species of Mouse from the Cape of Good Hope was next described by Mr. Waterhouse under the name of

MUS SUBSPINOSUS. *M. pilis subspinosis, corpore suprâ fuscescenti-griseo; ad latera flavescente; subtùs niveo, oculis flavido cinctis; caudâ capite corporeque breviorè; auribus mediocribus.*

	unc.	lin.
Longitudo ab apice rostri ad caudæ basin	3	4
————— <i>caudâ</i>	2	11
————— ab apice rostri ad basin auris	0	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
————— <i>tarsi digitorumque</i>	0	8 $\frac{1}{4}$
————— <i>auris</i>	0	3 $\frac{1}{4}$

Hab. Cape of Good Hope.

“This species is allied to the *Mus Cahirinus* of Geoffroy; it is, however, not so large; and although the hairs are flat and bristle-like, they are less harsh than those of the North African species; it also differs in its colouring.”

Mr. Gould introduced to the notice of the Meeting a very singular form among the *Caprimulgidæ* for which he proposed the generic appellation of

AMBLYPTERUS.

Rostrum debile et elongatum.

Nares elevatæ et rotundatæ.

Rictus setis robustis instructus, rostro longioribus.

Alæ truncatæ; remigibus externis sextis ferè æqualibus et falcatis; remigibus 2^{do}, 3^{tio}, 4^{to} ad externum pogonium emarginatis, 7^{mo}, 8^{vo}, 9^{no} ad apices elongatis et attenuatis, 10^{mo} abrupte brevi; secundariis brevissimis, rotundatis et ab tertiariis tectis, his longissimis.

Cauda brevissima et quadrata.

Pedes ambulatorii.

Tarsi elongati, graciles, squamis indistinctis antice et postice fasciati; digito intermedio longissimo et gracillimo; digitis lateralibus brevibus et æqualibus; digito postico parvo, debili et libero; unguibus elongatis, ungue medio pectinato.

AMBLYPTERUS ANOMALUS. *Amb. summo capite, corpore suprâ et alis cinereo-fuscis, singulis plumis nigro irregularitèr sparsis et maculatis; primariis nigris, ad bases rubrescenti-cervinis, ad apices albis; secundariis cervinis, nigrescenti-fusco irregularitèr.*

fasciatis; reatricibus caudæ cervinis, nigrescenti-fusco irregulariter fasciatis et maculatis; duabus centralibus cinereo-fuscis; gutture, pectore et abdomine ad partem superiorem nigrescenti-fuscis, singulis plumis cervino maculatis; abdomine imo pallide cervino, singulis plumis nigrescenti-fusco transversim fasciatis; rostro fusco; pedibus pallide fuscis.

Long. tot. unc. $6\frac{3}{4}$; rostri, 1; alæ, $5\frac{3}{4}$; caudæ, 3; tarsi, $\frac{7}{8}$.

Obs. Mr. J. E. Gray believes this bird to be from Demerara, or the Brazils; the specimen is in the collection at the British Museum, and so far as I am aware is unique.

Mr. Gould afterwards exhibited a species of *Ibis*, having many characters in common with the *Ibis religiosa* of Cuvier, and two new species of the genus *Platalea*, which were accompanied with the following descriptions.

IBIS STRICTIPENNIS.—*Ib. capite et collo superiore nudis, et nigrescenti-fuscis, cœruleo lavatis; corpore toto, et alis albis, cœruleo lavatis; plumis in gulâ longis, angustis, lanceolatis et rigidis; primariis ad apices cœruleo-viridibus; tertiariis valdè productis et nigro-cœruleis, albo sparsis; tarsis et spatio nudo sub alâ rufo-fuscis.*

Long. tot. unc. 30; rostri, 6; alæ, $14\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, 6; tarsi, 4.

Hab. Australiâ.

PLATALEA REGIA. *Plat. cristâ occipitali pendente et corpore toto, pectore excepto, albo; pectore flavo parum lavato; fronte facie anteriori et gulâ plumis prorsus nudis; notâ super oculos atque in occipite medio aurantiacâ.*

Long. tot. unc. 39; rostri, $8\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, 15; caudæ, $5\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $5\frac{1}{2}$.

Hab. Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

Fœm. differt a mare adulto, staturâ minore.

PLATALEA FLAVIPES. *Plat. corpore toto albo; parte faciei nudâ angustiore quàm in Plat. regiâ; parte nudâ et rostro aurantiacis; pedibus flavis.*

Long. tot. unc. 28; rostri, $7\frac{1}{2}$; alæ, $14\frac{1}{2}$; caudæ, $5\frac{1}{2}$; tarsi, $4\frac{3}{4}$.

Hab. Novâ Cambriâ Australi.

MISCELLANEOUS.

HELMINTHOLOGY.

D. C. M. Dresing, in the *Nova Acta Phys. Med.* xii., has given two papers on Helminthology; one a monograph of the genus *Tristoma*, describing four species, one of them hitherto unknown; and the other on some new genera and species of this animal, amongst which is a fifth *Tristoma*.—J. E. GRAY.